\* Case No. 94-159-A \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Variance filed by the owner of the subject property, Professional Realty Company, by Mark T. Willen, General Partner, through their attorney, John B. Gontrum, Esquire. The Petitioner seeks relief from Section 203.3. C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit an illuminated, freestanding sign of 48 sq.ft. per side (96 sq.ft. total) in lieu of the maximum permitted 15 sq.ft. per side (30 sq.ft. total), in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing on behalf of the Petitioner was John Gontrum, Esquire. There were no Protestants.

Testimony indicated that the subject property, known as 10019 Reisterstown Road, consists of a gross area of 0.63 acres, more or less, split zoned R.O. and D.R. 16. This property was the subject of prior Case No. 87-12-XA in which  $\varepsilon$  special exception and variance for a Class B office building was granted on July 15, 1986. The Petitioner now seeks a variance to permit an illuminated, freestanding sign of 48 sq.ft. per side to identify the tenants of the building. Testimony indicated that due to the location of the property and existing improvements thereon, it is difficult to locate the building. The photographs submitted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 2 and 3 show that the building sits back off the road and is obscured from view by the adjacent Garrison House Apartments

property. Furthermore, the existing sign is not readily visible when travelling in either direction on Reisterstown Road due to landscaping on the adjoining property. Testimony indicated that the relief requested will not result in any detriment to the public health, safety or general welfare.

An area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning regulations would cause practical difficulty to the Petitioner and his property. McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the Petitioner must meet the following:

> 1) whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily

2) whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief; and

3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28 (1974).

It is clear from the testimony that if the variance is granted, such use, as proposed, will not be contrary to the spirit of the B.C.Z.R. and will not result in any injury to the public good.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, it is clear that practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship will result if the variance is not granted. It has been established that special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of this variance request and that the requirements from which the Petitioner seeks relief will unduly restrict the use

of the land due to the special conditions unique to this particular parcel. In addition, the variance requested will not cause any injury to the public health, safety or general welfare. Further, the granting of the Petitioner's request is in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the variance requested should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this  $2\lambda^{n\ell}$  day of November, 1993 that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 203.3. C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit an illuminated, freestanding sign of 48 sq.ft. per side (96 sq.ft. total) in lieu of the maximum permitted 15 sq.ft. per side (30 sq.ft. total), in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restriction:

1) The Petitioners may apply for their sign permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

- 3-

Suntay la Frace TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs

Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning

Movember 22 Street

Suite 113 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887 4 985

John B. Gontrum, Esquire 814 Eastern Boulevard Baltimore, Maryland 21221

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE NE/S Reisterstown Poad, 186' N of intersection w/Garrison View Poat (10019 Reisterstown Road) 3rd Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District Professional Realty Company Petitioner Case No. 94-159-A

Dear Mr. Gontrum:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Variance has been granted in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is aniavor able, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Zoning Administration and Development Management office at 887-3391,

> Very traly yours, TIMOTHY M. KOTPONY,

Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

cc: People's Counsel

111 West Chesapeake Avenue

OCTOBER 14, 1993

Towson, MD 21204

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

Petition for Variance to the Zoning Committee

for the property located at 10019 Reisterstown Road

The permitted sign size is inadequate for the facility.

94-159-A which is pressent the Parish of the Common Administration & Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s)

203.3.C.1 To allow an illuminated free standing sign of 48 square feet per side in lieu of permitted 15 square foot per side sign.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or Location of site on Reisterston Road and of building on the site mandates a

sign which is readily visible and identifies the professionals in the building.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law for Baltimore County.

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the

Easex, MD

By mark Twillow bon I PTR mulhor 10019 Reisterstown Road, Suite 301 Owings Mills, MD 21117

**DESCRIPTION TO ACCOMPANY PETITION** FOR VARIANCE REQUEST

RE: St. Thomas Green Lib./Fol. 5846/75

Point of beginning being located on the east side of Reisterstown Road North 41° 20' 00" West 186.06 feet ± from the intersection of the north side of Garrison View Road with the east side of Reisterstown road, thence in a clockwise direction:

South 46° 29' 22" West 7.00 feet ±

North 41° 20' 00" West 100.00 feet

North 46º 30' 00" East 250.06 feet

South 41° 14' 03" East 99.96 feet and

South 46° 29' 22" West 242.89 feet ± to the place of beginning.

Containing 0.57 Acres of land more or less.

(THIS DESCRIPTION IS FOR ZONING PURPOSES ONLY)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of \_\_\_ success



(410) 887-3353

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by suthority of the Zoning Act and Begulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 M. Chesepeake Avenue in Touson, Maryland 21204

NOTICE OF HEARING

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Heatington Avenue, Tousan, Paryland 21204 as folious

CASE NUMBER: 94-159-A (Item 161)

10019 Reisterstown Boad NE/S Reisterstown Road, 186' N from intersection N/S Garrison View Road 3rd Election District - 3rd Councilmanic Petitioner(s): Professional Realty Company

MEARING: HONDAY, HOVESHEER 15, 1993 at 9:00 a.m. in Rm. 118, 01d Courthouse.

Variance to allow an illuminated free-standing sign of 48 square feet per side in lieu of the permitted

HOTES: (1) BONING SIGH & POST HEST BE RETURNED TO RM. 104, 111 W. CHERAPEARE AVERUE ON THE MEARING DATE. (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMPONITIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353 (1) FOR THPORESTION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 887-1391.

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Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

OCTOBER 22, 1993

CHANGE OF TIME and/or LOCATION OF HEARING

CASE NUMBER: PROPERTY LOCATION: PETITIONER:

94-159-A (Item 161) 10019 Reisterstown Road Professional Realty Company

THE HEARING DATE AND LOCATION OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED CASE REMAINS THE SAME; THE TIME OF THE HEARING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 11:00 A.M.

ARNOLD JABLON DIRECTOR

cc: Professional Realty Company John B. Gontrum, Esq.

Printed with Soybean Ink on Recycled Paper

**Baltimore County Government** Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

October 20, 1993

94-159-A

(410) 887-3353

John B. Gontrum, Esquire 814 Eastern Boulevard Essex, MD 21221

> RE: Preliminary Petition Review (Item #161) Legal Owner: Professional Realty Company 10019 Reisterstown Road 3rd Election District

Dear Mr. Gontrum:

Print to the Gotton

At the request of the attorney/petitioner, the above referenced petition was accepted for filing without a final filing review by the staff. The plan was accepted with the understanding that all zoning issues/filing requirements would be addressed. A subsequent review by the staff has revealed unaddressed zoning issues and/or incomplete information. The following comments are advisory and do not necessarily identify all details and inherent technical zoning requirements necessary for a complete application. As with all petitions/plans filed in this office, it is the final responsibility of the petitioner to make a proper application, address any zoning conflicts and, if necessary, to file revised petition materials. All revisions (including those required by the hearing officer) must be accompanied by a check made out to Baltimore County, Maryland for the \$100.00 revision fee.

- 1. The petition form does not have the properties zones (R.O. and D.R.-16) indicated in the appropriate space.
- The attorney's signature is missing from the petition forms.
- 3. Due to the adjacent residential zone which does not allow the referenced 15 square feet per side, the zoning variance requested from Section 203.3.C (BCZR) should be changed to state: "to allow an illuminated free-standing sign of 48 square feet per side in lieu of the permitted non-illuminated wall-mounted sign with 8 square feet on one side".

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

November 5, 1993

John B. Gontrum, Esquire 814 Eastern Boulevard Essex, Maryland 21221 RE: Case No. 94-159-A, Item No. 161 Petitioner: Professional Realty Company Petition for Variance

Dear Mr. Gontrum:

The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee (ZAC) has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition. The attached comments from each reviewing agency are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties, i.e., zoning commissioner, attorney and/or the petitioner, are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case.

Enclosed are all comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition. If additional comments are received from other members of ZAC, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on October 8, 1993, and a hearing was scheduled accordingly.

The following comments are related <u>only to the filing of future</u> <u>zoning petitions</u> and are aimed at expediting the petition filing process with this office.

1. The director of Zoning Administration and Development Management has instituted a system whereby seasoned zoning attorneys who feel that they are capable of filing petitions that comply with all aspects of the zoning regulations and petitions filing requirements can file their petitions with this office without the necessity of a preliminary review by zoning personnel.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND THEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director DATE: October 25, 1993 Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM Development Plan Review

RE: Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting for October 25, 1993 Item No. 161

The Development Flan Review Section has reviewed the subject sening item. This site is not in compliance with the Landscape Manual requirements.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, HARYLAND

INTER OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration and Development Management

DATE: October 15, 1995

FROM: Pat Keller, Deputy Director Office of Planning and Zoning

SUBJECT: Petitions from Zoning Advisory Committee

The Office of Planning and Zoning has no comments on the following petition(s):

Item Nos. 147, 159 and 161.

If there should be any further questions or if this office can provide additional information, please contact Jeffrey Long in the Office of Planning at 887-1489.

PK/JL:lw

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ZAC.147/PZONE/ZAC1

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY PETITIONER(S) SIGN-IN SHEET HARRY CONNOLLY 85515 STAET THUOS MOTTOD PI Printed with Soyboan Ink on Recycled Paper

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